

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant appreciates the thorough examination of the present application, as evidenced by the first Official Action. The first Official Action rejects Claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by PCT Patent Application Publication No. WO 02/067621 to Svensson et al. The Official Action then rejects the remaining claims, namely Claims 19-21, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Svensson. Additionally, the Official Action objects to the format of all of the dependent claims, in which the preambles read, "A [method/system/mobile station] according to Claim"

In response, Applicant has amended various ones of the claims to more clearly define the claimed invention, and added new Claims 22-24 to recite further patentable features of the present invention. Among the aforementioned amendments, Applicant has amended the dependent claims to read, "The [method/system/apparatus] of Claim ..."; and accordingly respectfully submit that the objection to the claims is overcome. Applicants have not, however, amended any of the claims in view of the rejections of the claims as being anticipated by or unpatentable over Svensson. As explained below, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentably distinct from Svensson; and accordingly traverse the rejections of the claims as being anticipated by or unpatentable over Svensson. In view of the amended and newly-added claims, and the remarks presented herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims of the present application.

Briefly, Svensson discloses a system and method for managing position information of a supervised object (A). As disclosed, in addition to the supervised object (A), the system includes a supervising object (B), an operator and a position permission issuer (PTU). When the person who is carrying the supervised object A wants to issue permission to the person who is carrying the supervising object B to receive the position of the object A, the object A establishes contact with a PTU, and instructs the PTU to issue a digital permission to the supervising object B. Supervising object B may thereafter receive the issued digital permission such that, when the supervising object B wants to derive information about the position of the supervised object A, object B may establish contact with, and provide the digital permission to, an operator. The operator may then extract and forward the current position information to the supervising object

B.

Amended independent Claim 10 recites a system for controlling access to an event. As disclosed, the system includes first and second network entities, and an event server maintaining an event. The first network entity is configured to control access to event-based information available within a network and associated with the event. In this regard, the first network entity is configured to receive consent to access the event-based information associated with the event, automatically create an authorization upon receiving the consent, and thereafter transmit the authorization. The second network entity is configured to receive the authorization, and thereafter transmit a subscription message. The subscription message includes the authorization and an event package describing the event-based information. Finally, the event server is configured to receive the subscription message, and thereafter determine whether to accept the subscription message based upon the authorization.

A. Controlling Access, and Automatically Creating an Authorization

In contrast to amended independent Claim 10, Svensson does not teach or suggest a first network entity configured to control access to event-based information, the first network entity being configured to receive consent to access the event-based information associated with the event, automatically create an authorization upon receiving the consent. The Official Action alleges that the supervised object A of Svensson corresponds to the recited first network entity. Presuming the accuracy of such an interpretation of Svensson (expressly without admission), however, Svensson does not teach or suggest that the supervised object A receives consent to access information, and upon receiving the consent, automatically creates an authorization. In this regard, although the supervised object A may control access to its location information, supervised object A does not in fact automatically create the authorization for accessing that information. Instead, Svensson quite clearly recites that the supervised object A establishes contact with another entity (i.e., a PTU) that, functioning similar to a Certificate Authority, issues a digital permission to access location information.

Applicants note that Svensson does disclose an embodiment whereby the supervised object A provides an authorization to the supervising object B, which the supervising object then

uses to obtain, from the PTU, an authorization to access the location information. Even in this instance, and given (without admission) the Official Action's interpretation of the operator of Svensson corresponding to the recited event server, however, the authorization provided by the supervised object A is not the authorization transmitted to the operator for making any determinations as to providing the requested information to the supervising object B, similar to the first network entity-generated authorization of amended independent Claim 10. Rather, as indicated above, the authorization provided by the supervised object A is provided to the PTU for providing another authorization, and that other authorization is then provided to the operator for determining whether to provide the requested information to the supervising object B. Thus, whereas Svensson requires a separate PTU for providing an authorization from which the operator determines whether to provide requested information, amended independent Claim 10 does not require such a separate entity.

Not only does Svensson fail to teach or suggest the aforementioned feature of amended independent Claim 10, Applicant respectfully submits that one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to modify Svensson to include such a feature, particularly considering its strong association with Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and the use of CA's (PTU in Svensson) within PKI schemes. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that amended independent Claim 10, and by dependency Claims 11-18 and 23, is patentably distinct from Svensson. Applicant also respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 1 and 19 recite subject matter similar to that of amended independent Claim 10, including the aforementioned consent and automatic authorization-creation features. As such, Applicant also respectfully submits that amended independent Claims 1 and 19, and by dependency Claims 2-9, 20-22 and 24, are also patentably distinct from Svensson, for at least the reasons given above.

In addition to the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that various ones of dependent Claims 2-9, 11-18 and 20-24 recite features further patentably distinct from Svensson. As examples, the features of dependent Claims 2, 3, 11 and 12 will now be addressed below.

B. Transmitting a Request before Receiving Consent

As recited by dependent Claim 11 (and similarly Claim 2), and also in contrast to Svensson, prior to the first network entity receiving consent to access the event-based information, the second network entity is configured to transmit a request to the first network entity to access the event-based information associated with the event. As support for its contention that Svensson does disclose this feature, the Official Action cites page 6, lines 11-18 of Svensson. As disclosed by the cited portion of Svensson, supervised object A (or its supervised person) may revoke permission to supervising object B by means of a revocation list including the revoked supervising object B, and checking of the revocation list by an operator before providing respective location information to a supervising object B. Even considering its permission revocation feature, however, Svensson still does not teach or suggest transmitting an information request from supervising object B (allegedly the second network entity) to supervised object A (allegedly the first network entity) before supervised object A receives consent to access the information, similar to the claimed invention. Rather, the permission revocation feature of Svensson quite clearly relates to communication after permission has been provided to supervising object B, not before creating an authorization as with the request of dependent Claim 12.

C. Transmitting/Executing a Trigger to Active a Request

As recited by dependent Claim 12 (and similarly Claim 3), and further in contrast to Svensson, the second network entity being configured to transmit a request includes the second network entity being configured to transmit a trigger to the first network entity such that the first network entity can execute the trigger to thereby activate the request to access the event-based information. As support for this alleged feature of Svensson, the Official Action cites page 6, lines 19-35 related to supervising object B obtaining a permission (to receive location information of supervised object A) from the PTU without prior contact between supervised object A and the PTU. Again, even considering this feature, Svensson still does not teach or suggest supervising object B (allegedly the second network entity) transmitting a trigger for execution by supervised object A (allegedly the first network entity) to active an information

Appl. No.: 10/602,078
Amdt. dated May 15, 2007
Reply to Official Action of January 16, 2007

request from supervising object B to supervised object A. In fact, the cited passage of Svensson discloses an embodiment that explicitly removes supervised object A from the process of obtaining permission to receive its location.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 1-21 as being anticipated by or unpatentable over Svensson are overcome.

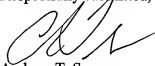
Appl. No.: 10/602,078
Amdt. dated May 15, 2007
Reply to Official Action of January 16, 2007

CONCLUSION

In view of the amended and newly-added claims, and the remarks presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. As such, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. In order to expedite the examination of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney in order to resolve any remaining issues.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew T. Spence
Registration No. 45,699

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

ELECTRONICALLY FILED USING THE EFS-WEB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE ON May 15, 2007.

LEGAL02/30361937v1